Assignment of IDRC, Canada Office in New Delhi

2653. SHRI C.O. POULOSE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to refer to answer given to Unstarred Question 1287 given in the Rajya Sabha on 7th March, 2000 and state :

(a) whether Government of India are promptly informed of the assignment to the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), South Asia Regional Office of all staff members and contract experts as per the Letter of Exchange dated 2nd June, 1983;

(b) whether IDRC assigned the then Regional Director alongwith two staff members of South Asia Regional Office to register a society called Asian Health, Environment and Allied Database (AHEAD) and be the founder members of the society ; and

(c) if so, the date of communications by which the above assignment is informed to the Ministry of Finance, by IDRC ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Evasion of Taxes by Traders in Delhi

2654. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of traders in Delhi are doing their business on cash payment basis without issuing proper receipt to evade Income Tax;

(b) whether this practice is common amongst Paints and Hardware dealers;

(c) if so, whether Government are aware that M/s. R.R. Paints and H/W Store-C-35, Madhu Vihar Main Road, Near Patparganj Depot, Delhi-110092 has been regularly evading payment of Income Tax on the above lines ;

(d) what steps Government proposed to take against the above dealer to recover Income Tax arrears; and by when; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR) : (a) and (b) Cases where traders do business on cash basis without issuing proper receipts come to the notice of the Income Tax Department during the course of Surveys, Searches, etc. carried out under the Income Tax Act. Such instances are also reported by the Sales Tax authorities.

(c) to (e) : No such evasion has been detected. The outstanding income-tax arrears is only Rs. 1400/-.

Andhra Pradesh Government's request for writing off loan

2655. Dr. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested to write off Rs. 3491 crores out of the total outstanding loans due from the State Government on account of expenditure incurred on anti-extremist operations being a National problem; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Eleventh Finance Commission as per its Terms of Reference is required to make an assessment of the debt position of States and suggest such corrective measures as are deemed necessary, keeping in view the long term sustainability for both the Centre and States. Any debt relief to State/States will have to await the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission.

Recommendations of the 11th Finance Commission

2656. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA :

SHRI C. RAMACHANDRIAH :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since received the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission;

(b) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Commission;

(c) whether the Commission have recommended the Government to substantially increase grants to various State Governments;

(d) whether Government have examined the recommendations of the Commission and propose to accept and implement in toto; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) : (a) to (e) The Eleventh Finance Commission has submitted its Interim Report on 15th January, 2000. The Interim Report alongwith Explanatory Memorandum as to the action taken on the